DEFENSE INTELLIGENCE AGENCY
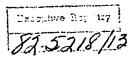
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20301

U-9073/RSO

4 August 1982

MEMORANDUM FOR THE DIRECTOR OF CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE

SUBJECT: SAFE

1. General Williams and I have discussed this subject and, as you know, we support the redirected SAFE Program. Furthermore, we share your resolve that the analytical users be adequately consulted at the onset of and during the execution of this program. Consequently, I am forwarding comments and observations from DIA analytical staff in the Directorate for Foreign Intelligence.

2. The analysts are generally pleased with the prospect of "hands-on" experience beginning early in 1983 well before the initial capabilities become operational in the DIAC. They expect that the feedback provided will be utilized in subsequent enhancements and that this user involvement would continue throughout the entire program.

3. The DIA analyst requires both a message dissemination system similar to pilot mail and an improved structured file capability. However, our prime requirement has been and remains the structured file capability which, of necessity at this point, is not fully defined. Our requirements are more extensive than just a direct conversion of DIAOLS onto SAFE.

4. The analysts feel that capabilities defined through FY-87 do not represent the eventual full range of functionality for SAFE. As the development proceeds, the analysts would definitely support the inclusion of additional functions but not at the expense of the basic message handling and DIA initial structured file improvements.

5. The introduction of a pilot mail type capability into DIA will certainly be of benefit to the analyst. However, if problems arise with the implementation and enhancement of pilot mail during FY-83 and FY-84 these must not impact in any way on the development and implementation of the structured file capability. Priority must be given to a separate but parallel development track.

6. Finally, our analysts feel that the SAFE capabilities projected for delivery through FY-87 will positively affect analytical work and represent increases over analyst support capabilities currently implemented in DIA or, in many cases, non-existent. The quantification of the relative value can best be attained through actual experience therefore modification of the planned capabilities and their implementation sequence should be made only as user experience increases. This is particularly true of the SAFE user language which should be designed and implemented incrementally after analyst feedback.

7. In summary, we believe that the proposed sequence and priority of deliveries are appropriate given technical constraints. We are currently satisfied with the proposed capabilities and their emphasis and would not welcome change in emphasis nor the elimination of future improvements.

E. A. BURKHALTER, JR.
Rear Admiral, USN
Deputy Director

Director, Defense Intelligence Agency
Approved

cc:
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